

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8-13, 15-18, 20-22, 26-29, 32-37, 42, and 43 are pending in the Application. Claims 4, 14, 23, 24, 30, 31, 37, and 38 are canceled by this Amendment, in addition to the previous cancellation of claims 7, 19, 25, 40, and 41. Claims 1, 12, 22, 29, and 36 are amended.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended in the telephonic interview with Atty. Doll on October 17, 2005. The substance of that interview is reflected in the remarks and arguments presented herein.

In the Advisory action, the Examiner indicated that claims 4, 14, 24, 31, and 38 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 4 depends from independent claim 1. Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 4 and have canceled claim 4, including an amendment to the subject matter of claim 4 as submitted in the previous response after Final Office action. Applicants have amended the subject matter of claim 4 to recite that the vacuum strength is adjustable to one of the first and second vacuum strengths to clarify the scope of the claim language with respect to the adjustable vacuum strength. In the Oct. 17 interview, the Examiner indicated that he would allow this amendment to the subject matter of claim 4. Thus, Applicants submit that claim 1 as amended is allowable. Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, and 8-11 depend from claim 1 and are thus allowable for the reasons discussed with respect to claim 1, as well as for other reasons not discussed herein.

Claim 14 depends from independent claim 12. Independent claim 12 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 14, and claim 14 has been canceled. Applicants have amended the subject matter of claim 14 to recite that the vacuum strength is adjustable to one of the first and second vacuum strengths to clarify the scope of the claim language with respect to the adjustable vacuum strength. As discussed above with respect to claim 1, the Examiner has indicated that he would allow this amendment. Thus, Applicants submit that claim 12 as amended is allowable. Claims 13, 15-18, 20, and 21 depend from claim 12 and are allowable for the reasons discussed with respect to claim 12, as well as for other reasons not discussed herein.

Claim 24 depends from claim 23, which depends from independent claim 22. Independent claim 22 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 23 and 24, and claims 23 and 24 have been canceled. Applicants have amended the subject matter of claim 24 to recite that the vacuum strength is adjustable to one of the first and second vacuum strengths

to clarify the scope of the claim language with respect to the adjustable vacuum strength. As discussed above with respect to claim 1, the Examiner has indicated that he would allow this amendment. Thus, Applicants submit that claim 22 as amended is allowable. Claims 26-28 depend from claim 22 and are thus allowable for the reasons discussed with respect to claim 22, as well as for other reasons not discussed herein.

Claim 31 depends from claim 30, which depends from independent claim 29. Independent claim 29 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 30 and 31, and claims 30 and 31 have been canceled. Applicants have amended the subject matter of claim 31 to recite that the vacuum strength is adjustable to one of the first and second vacuum strengths to clarify the scope of the claim language with respect to the adjustable vacuum strength. As discussed above with respect to claim 1, the Examiner has indicated that he would allow this amendment. Thus, Applicants submit that claim 29 as amended is allowable. Claims 32-35 depend from claim 29 and are thus allowable for the reasons discussed with respect to claim 29, as well as for other reasons not discussed herein.

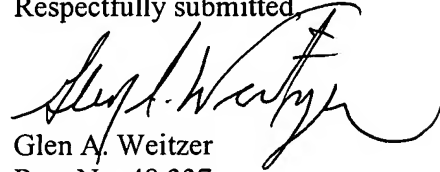
Claim 38 depends from claim 37, which depends from independent claim 36. Independent claim 36 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 37 and 38, and claims 37 and 38 have been canceled. Applicants have amended the subject matter of claim 36 to recite that the vacuum strength is adjustable to one of the first and second vacuum strengths to clarify the scope of the claim language with respect to the adjustable vacuum strength. As discussed above with respect to claim 1, the Examiner has indicated that he would allow this amendment. Thus, Applicants submit that claim 36 as amended is allowable. Claims 39, 42, and 43 depend from claim 36 and are thus allowable for the reasons discussed with respect to claim 36, as well as for other reasons not discussed herein.

Conclusion

For all of these reasons, entry of this Amendment and allowance of claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8-13, 15-18, 20-22, 26-29, 32-37, 42, and 43 are respectfully requested.

The undersigned is available for a telephone conference at any time.

Respectfully submitted,



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